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Thomas Phipps Esq.

HIS

PROPOSAL.

For Raising One Million of *Pounds Sterling* Yearly, that will neither affect the Lands, or Trade of *Great Britaine*, or be grevious to them that Pay it, on a Fund already Established by *Law*, which will need no farther Sanction of *Parliament*, then to Appoint the Quantum and order the Application.

It is a *Tax* on *Licences*, for Selling Beer, *Ale &c.* to which might be added *Tea, Coffee, Chocolate, Mum*, Syder, *Perry*, and other such Liquors.

In *Great Britain, there are not less than* [redacted] *Thousand* Families that Occupie themselves in Selling the above named Liquors.

IF therefore all Persons occupying a House under *Ten Pounds per. Annum*, for Sale of the aforesaid Liquors, did pay Yearly to the *Government* for their Licences, to sell such Liquors. The Sum of ——— *One Pound*
Tenn Pounds per. Annum. and under *Twenty* ——— *Two Pound.*
Twenty Pounds per. Annum and under *Thirty* ——— *Three Pound.*
Thirty Pounds per. Annum, and under *Forty*, ——— *Four Pound.*
Forty Pounds per. Annum, and under *Sixty* ——— *Five Pound.*
And all of *Sixty Pounds per. Annum*, and upwards, to pay ——— *Six Pound.*

It would raise an Yearly *Sum* more, than the *One Million* proposed.

This Proposal; will affect none but Clarkes of the Peace, and Justices of the Peace, their Clarkes, who have hitherto taken Fees, for such Licences to their owne use without Account; or paying any thing towards the Charge of the Warr for the same. And the Sum that this foregoing Scheme will raise, much exceeding the *Sum* Proposed; There will be room to gratifie those Clarkes for their Fees and Perquisits, out of the Surplus arising thereby, if the *Government* shall think it Necessary.

Ale-Houses were originaly Accounted Neusances in the *Parish's* where they where, as tending to Debauch the Subject, and make the People Idle, and therefore Licences, to sell Beer and Ale, where allow'd to none, but Ancient People past their Labours, and Invalides to keep them from Starving, there being then no *Act* of *Parliament* that *Parishes* should Maintain their own Poor. But the Primitive Intention in granting Licenses being now perverted, and all sorts of People Admitted to this Priviledge, it is but reason the Publick should have some Advantage by the Priviledges it grants, especialy, since Selling the aforesaid Liquors being now become so general and beneficial, that, though there be some *Thousands* of Houses Standing Empty in and about the *CITY* of *London*, there is hardly one Ale-House to be found Unoccupied And if by Death, or Desertion, one doth happen to be Void, Several Customers Immediatly offer themseves for it, and commonly a valuable *Sum* of Money for Good Will, is given to get into it, over and above the Stipulated Rent, it went at before.

The Licences for Selling the aforesaid Liquors, will be an equivalent abundantly sufficient for the *Money* paid for them, and it being every Mans Choice, whether he will Purchace a Licence or not, there will be no occasion of Complaint.

Present Money being to be payd for these Licences, there will be but little Trouble, or Charge attending the Collecting this *Tax*; there is no possibility for a Deficiency, nor room for a Borrowing Clause; Which three Articles, usualy eat up great part of most other *Taxes.*

This Fund being Certain, Sufficient, easily Collected and no ways Grevious, may when the *Parliament* thinks fit, serve in the room of the *Land Tax*, which hath Ruin'd all *Gentlemen* of 500 *l. per. Annum*, in the Kingdom that had no other Dependancie.

And the Proposer humbly hopes if made use of, He and his Friends, that have been at the Charge and Trouble in enquiring into the Sufficiency of this Fund, may find their Account in it, as this Honourable House shall think Fitt.

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Thomas Phipps Esq.

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